

The Advocate

Devoted to the Interests of the Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union and Other Kindred Organizations.

VOL. III. NO. 17.

TOPEKA, KANSAS, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1891.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL.

Proceedings of the Third Annual Meeting at Indianapolis, Ind., November 17, 1891.

FIRST DAY.

Tuesday, November 17, 1891.

The National Farmer's Alliance and Industrial Union was convened in annual session at 3 o'clock, by the national president, Brother L. L. Polk.

The following officers were announced by the president: Chaplain, S. M. Adams, of Alabama; Door-keeper, Williams, of North Carolina; Assistant Doorkeeper, T. K. Wood, of California; Sergeant-at-Arms, W. S. Copeland, of Georgia; assistant, D. F. Allen, of New York.

Committee on credentials appointed as follows: J. W. Kerr, of Maryland; J. Wm. Stokes, of South Carolina; Belden, of Michigan.

The executive committee submitted their report on the states that had paid up, and those that had not.

The following resolution by Livingston, of Georgia:

Resolved, That the secretary of the National Farmer's Alliance and Industrial Union call the roll of delegates by states, and those objected to, or of doubtful legality, shall, without discussion, be referred to a committee on credentials. Carried.

Clayton, of Louisiana, made point of order, that there was not a quorum, and demanded the call of roll by states.

Moved and carried, that, as we proceed with the roll call, that all states dissatisfied with the ruling of the executive committee, state the number of delegates they claim, and then make their grievances known to the committee on credentials.

The national secretary proceeded with the roll call as follows:

Virginia, 8 delegates; entitled to 3.
West Virginia, 2; entitled to 2.
Missouri, 4; and claims 7.
Georgia, 3; and claims 5.
Iowa, 2; and claims 3.
Colorado, 2.
Florida, none; claims 3.
Alabama, 3; claims 4.
Arkansas, 3; entitled to none.
Indian Territory, 2; entitled to none.
Louisiana, 3; claims 4.
Maryland, 2; entitled to 2.
North Dakota, 2; entitled to 1.
North Carolina, 4; entitled to 3 and claims 4.
Oklahoma, 2; entitled to 2.
South Carolina, 3; entitled to 3.
Indiana, 2; claims 3.
Kansas, 7; entitled to 7 and claims 5.
Wisconsin, 2; entitled to 2.
Texas, 5; entitled to 3 and claims 5.

California, 3; entitled to 3.
Illinois, 2; entitled to none.
Michigan, 3; entitled to 3.
Tennessee, 4; entitled to none and claims 8.

New York, 2; entitled to 2.
Pennsylvania, 3; entitled to none.
New Jersey, 2; entitled to 2.
Ohio, 2; entitled to 2.
Washington, 2; entitled to 2.
Oregon, 2; entitled to 3.
South Dakota, 3; entitled to 3.
Mississippi, 4; entitled to none.
Kentucky, 3; entitled to 3.

A resolution by Brother Beverly, of Virginia, on giving matter to the press, was presented and laid on the table for the present.

On motion of Brother Loucks, of South Dakota, a recess was taken until 9 a. m., to give the committee on credentials time to make their report.

On motion of Brother Beck, of Alabama, a committee of five on the order of business was appointed. The committee consisted of R. W. Beck, of Alabama; Mann Page, of Virginia; M. V. Rork, of Oregon; M. A. Householder, of Kansas; M. V. Davis, of Kentucky.

On motion of Brother Page, of Virginia, the public was cordially invited to hear the address of our national president at Tomlinson hall, this evening at 7:30.

The executive session adjourned at 5 p. m., to meet again at 9 a. m. to-morrow.

SECOND DAY.

Wednesday, November 18, 1891.

The meeting was called to order by President L. L. Polk, at 9:20 a. m., and was opened in due form.

The following were appointed to fill the vacancy on the judiciary committee: John S. Dore, of California, and S. M. Adams, of Alabama.

Minutes read and approved.

The committee appointed on credentials reported as follows:

To the Supreme Council of the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, in regular annual session assembled at Indianapolis:

Your committee to whom were referred all cases of brethren claiming seats on this floor as delegates, in addition to those whose names appear upon the official roster of the secretary of this body, beg leave to report that we have patiently heard the statements upon which the brethren base their claims, and we are impressed, that without exception, there is merit in these claims. In nearly every instance, we find the discrepancy between their claims and the roster of the national secretary, arises from some misunderstanding concerning the time when dues must be paid. In two cases, Louisiana and Texas, the final report of the state secretary to the national secretary remitting dues in full, and closing

the account, calls for less delegates to this body than were elected by the State Alliance. When we remember that the State Alliance must have elected its delegates upon the representations of their state secretary as to the membership in their jurisdiction, it is difficult to explain the discrepancy, but your committee do not see how they could go behind the final report of the state secretary. This is quite a different case from those in which the state secretary has promised a supplementary and complete report accompanied by further remittances before February next to cover their accounts for delegates present. Your committee therefore recommend:

1. That all delegates duly accredited to this body by their State Alliance be seated, except in the cases above cited (Texas and Louisiana,) where final reports have been filed and the accounts closed by their state secretary, which reports call for less delegates than the number elected and claiming seats.

2. That in these cases where more delegates have been accredited and are present than are warranted by the final report of the state secretary, only so many be seated as their state secretary's said final report certifies and that such delegation decide among themselves, how they will cast the votes to which their state is entitled under said final report of their state secretaries.

3. That delegates shall receive payment upon expense vouchers in proportion to the amount of money paid into the national treasury from their respective states for the year 1892.

Your committee feels that it is not impertinent to this report to call your attention to the source of most of the difficulty experienced by this and previous committees on credentials and urge some action looking to a removal of said deficiencies. Reference is had here to the constitutional requirements that delegates and dues to this body shall be based upon the October report. We think the matter would be amended by basing upon the July report. We think also that this body should distinctly define what bearing the February limit adopting the Ocala demands has upon admission of delegates, or else rescinding the resolution fixing that limit.

We think that is not irrelevant to suggest further in this correction that this body impress upon the delegates seated under the report, the importance of exercising all diligence in their respective state, county and sub-Alliances upon their return home to have the state secretaries report and have remittances in the national secretary's hand before February next, and to the end that in future all reports and remittances be forwarded before November 1st.

Respectfully submitted.

J. W. KERR.
E. H. BELDEN.
J. W. STOKES.

Report as read adopted.

Resolution by Beverly of Virginia:

1. That the chair be authorized to at once appoint a committee of five, to be known as

the press committee.

2. That all delegates and visitors here present be hereby charged, that when interviewed by reporters for the public press they respectfully decline to be so interviewed and refer said reporter to said press committee.

3. That all delegates and visitors here present be hereby admonished to be on their guard in their communication with strangers, lest they inadvertently give information to the reporters.

Carried and committee appointed.

Press committee—Beverly, of Virginia; Laughinghouse, of North Carolina; Southworth, of California; Bell, of Georgia; Barton, of Illinois.

Brother Force, of Indiana, requested that D. H. Yoeman be placed in his delegation from Indiana as a delegate instead of Mrs. Lou Snider, which request was granted by him agreeing to be responsible for Mr. Yoeman's acts to the State Alliance, the point being made by Mr. Page, of Virginia.

The committee on order of business reported as follows:

To the Supreme Council:

Your committee on order of business beg leave to report as follows:

We recommend that the hours for meeting be as follows: 9 a. m. to 1:30 p. m. 3:30 p. m. to 6 p. m.; 8 p. m., to take recess at will.

We recommend that all resolutions be referred to the proper committee without debate.

That the election of officers be made a special order for 2:30 p. m. Thursday.

That a member be allowed to speak but once on any question.

We recommend the following order of business:

1. Opening of council.
2. Reading of minutes of the preceding meeting.
3. Reports of officers.
4. Appointment of committees.
5. Miscellaneous business.
6. Reports of standing committees.
7. Unfinished business.
8. New business.
9. Miscellaneous business.
10. Recess.

We recommend the following committees:

- Auditing committee of three.
- On press, three.
- Secret work, three.
- Finance, three.
- Mileage and per diem, three.
- Good of the order, seven.
- Constitution, seven.
- Confederation, seven.
- Legislative demands—

We recommend that this committee on Legislative demands consist of one member from each state, and that its chairman be empowered to appoint such committees.
R. W. BACK, Chairman.

Adopted.

Moved by Brother Livingston that that portion of the order of business referring

(Continued on ninth page.)